Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the third full paragraph beginning at page 12, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- In the base layer decoding pipeline 118, the base layer may undergo variable length decoding (VLD) 120, an inverse quantization (IQ) 122, an inverse scan (IS) 124, and an inverse discrete cosine transform (IDCT) 126. The VLD 120, IQ 122, IS 124 and IDCT 126 operations essentially undo the VLC 48, Q 44, S 46 and DCT 42 operations performed during encoding shown in **Figure 2**. Decoded base layer data may then be processed in a motion compensator (MC) 130, which may reconstruct individual pictures based upon the changes from one picture to the next. Data from a previous, or "reference" picture 134 may be stored in a temporary memory unit called a "frame buffer" 136 and may be used as a reference. Decoded data from the IDCT 126 will be used by the MC 130 to determine how the next picture in the sequence changes from the previous picture. Because the IDCT 126 may result in the creation of invalid video data, a "clip" function 132 is used to adjust the data. For example, a valid video datum may be any number between 0 and 255 inclusive, with 0 representing a black pixel and 255 representing a white pixel. If the IDCT operation 126 returns an invalid negative number, the clip operation 132 may set that datum to 0, making the datum valid. Similarly, if the IDCT operation 126 returns a number greater than 255, the clip operation 132 may set that

datum to 255. The output of the base layer pipeline 118 is base layer video data

138. The decoding techniques shown in **Figure 5** are illustrative but are not the

only way to achieve decoding.- -